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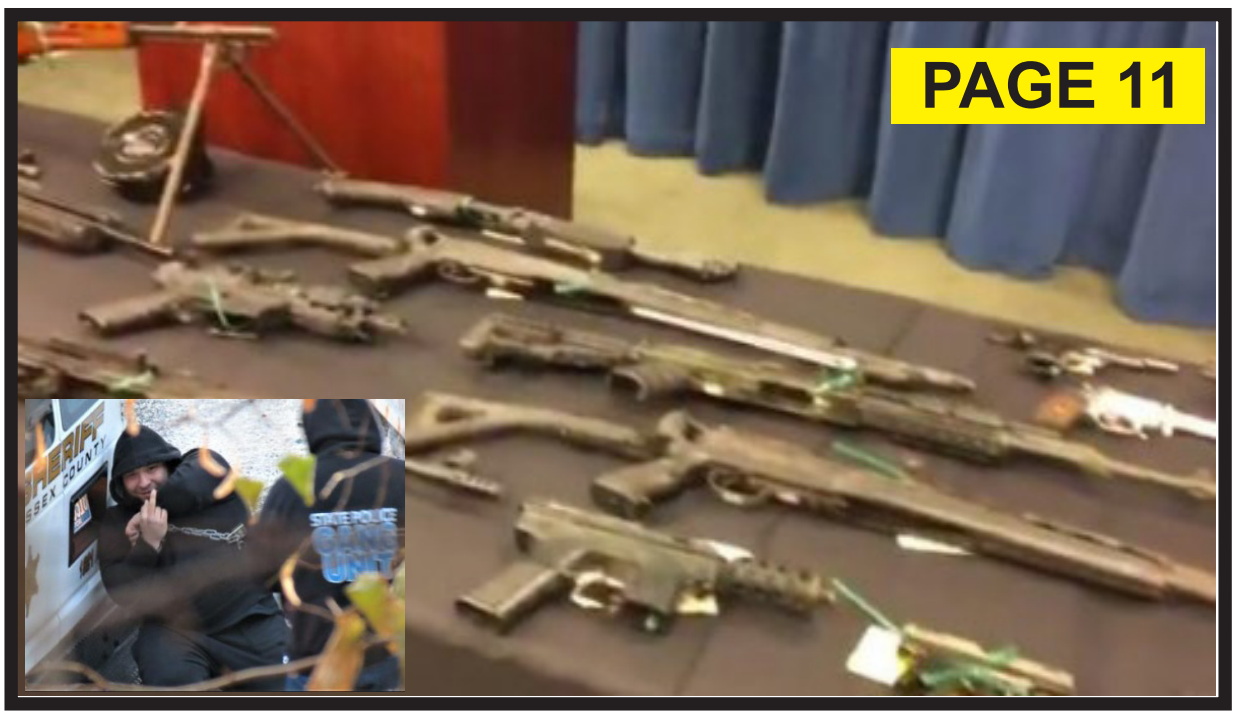
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Lawrence Gang Member Pleads Guilty

Trinitarios Gang Members Trafficked in Firearms, Ammunition, & Crack Cocaine



INDEX

Vets.....1,10,14
Editorial.....2
Lawrence.....2,4,11
State.....2,9,18
Winston Says.....6
Notebook.....6-7
Dracut.....7
Methuen.....9
KANE/Pets.....10
Health.....14
Real Estate.....16
Haverhill.....18
TV/Weather.....19
Religion.....20,23


Al Kaprielian
Page 19


Brian Genest
Dracut
PAGE 7


Linda Dean Campbell
State Rep.
PAGE 2


Sen. DiZoglio
In Your Corner
PAGE 9


Bill Cushing
TV TALK
PAGE 19

Valley Patriot of the Month

Don Jussaume, A Combat Medic and an Incoming Rocket!

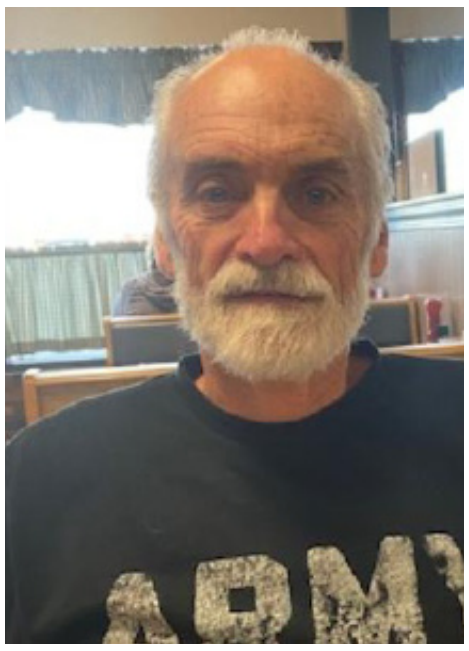
John Cuddy
VALLEY PATRIOT HERO REPORTER

DRACUT - Dracut native, Don Jussaume was drafted shortly after graduating from Dracut High School with the class of 1966. Not interested in college, he started working in construction after high school. On his birthday during the month of May in 1967, he found two pieces of US Mail waiting on him when he arrived home from work. One was a birthday card, the other, his draft notice.

At the time, Don was dating a young woman from the "Little Canada" section of Lowell. He was working in construction, dating a very nice young lady; military service was not on his agenda. After his induction and physical in Boston, he reported for basic military training at Fort Dix, New Jersey. Don was randomly assigned as a US Army Medic, no one interviewed him or asked, they just informed him that he was going to serve as a Medic. Don was sent to Texas and spent ten weeks at Fort Sam Houston being trained as a Medic. He and his future wife Jeannette became engaged after he completed Advanced Individual Training at the base.

His next stop was the First Infantry Division, known to Veterans, as the Big Red One, in Vietnam. There he was assigned to Company B of the First Medical Battalion. In combat, an Infantryman who is wounded, is first treated on the battlefield, by a field medic, or often by his squad. Sometimes, a soldier's wounds were even bandaged by the injured soldier, himself. After to further treat the wounded soldier, his comrades would then call for a medivac helicopter, a severely wounded soldier might have been flown directly to a major Military Hospital, if one was nearby.

Basic medical care was provided at an aid station, which is located at a base camp. The next level of treatment is at a clearing hospital. During the Vietnam war, clearing hospitals were strategically placed throughout the area of operation in Vietnam, so a wounded soldier needed only a short helicopter flight. Most wounded servicemen were treated at a clearing hospital. Slightly



wounded soldiers were sometimes discharged and returned to their unit from the clearing hospital. The clearing hospital Don was at, were staffed by three doctors. However, if the medical team suspected internal injuries, the soldier was flown to a larger Military Hospital, after he was stabilized.

Don was amazed that, young men in their teens and twenties, drafted shortly after completing high school, were given just ten weeks of medical training. These Soldiers, often without interest or aptitude for medical care, were then assigned as Medics.

HERO: PAGE 14

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Loss of Charlie Baker Catastrophic for Massachusetts

While conservatives and Republicans in Massachusetts have been rightfully angry with Governor Charlie Baker over the years, their celebration of his departure from governor's race next year is very short sighted.

Yes, Baker initially campaigned for governor as a fiscal conservative and a social moderate, and then abandoned all of those principals once he took office.

Yes, Baker has embraced the authoritarian lockdowns and other restrictive health measures that have proven to be ineffective.

And Yes, Charlie Baker has single handedly divided the Massachusetts Republican party by partaking in the anti-Trump hysteria of the last five years and trying to rig the state GOP elections for party leadership.

Having said that, however, Charlie Baker is the only reason the "defund the police" movement has not taken hold here in Massachusetts.

He has single handedly held back the left-wing lunatics who want riots in the streets, steep tax hikes, more social programs, parole for vicious killers, racism in the schools, and racist requirements for government benefits.

In short, without Charlie Baker on the ballot next year for governor, it's almost certain that the state Democrat Party will once again control the executive branch of state government.

For all of his faults as governor, Charlie Baker stabilized the state budget, fought for additional police funding, longer sentences for criminals, kept tax hikes to a minimum - and by virtue of holding that office - stopped the Ayana Pressley's and the hate-America crowd from destroying state government from within. In short, he stopped the same people who destroyed New York and California.

Sure, Republican Goeff Diehl would be a great governor if he could actually win a general election.

Nothing would make us happier than if Diehl would replace Baker for governor in 2022.

Unfortunately, Deihl already has the endorsement of Donald Trump in this race. To the left-wing Massachusetts voters, that's the equivalent of having the endorsement of former KKK leader David Duke.

Those TV commercials write themselves.

While we understand the reasons most Republicans and conservatives in Massachusetts hate Charlie Baker, his departure from this race is nothing to celebrate, in fact, it's downright catastrophic.

Two years from now, Charlie Baker will have a better job, that pays more, and has fewer headaches.

The rest of us, however, will be suffering under the dictates of the racist crazies in the Massachusetts Democratic Party. ◊

House Supports Funding for Immediate Needs in Methuen and Haverhill

Linda Dean Campbell
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

After months of public input, the Massachusetts House of Representatives passed a major $3.82 billion funding bill to address the most pressing challenges of our COVID-19 recovery. This bill prioritizes individuals and businesses that were most impacted by the pandemic and invests in areas of immediate need – such as workforce development, small business support, education, health facilities, housing, food security, and environmental protection.

The bill draws from a combination of federal relief funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and state surplus dollars from the previous fiscal year. Additional ARPA funds remain to be allocated at a later time. Allocating the funds in stages will allow the Legislature to reassess how these dollars can make the greatest impact as our economy recovers. It will also allow for continued public input to guide these major investments.

This bill includes significant funding for Methuen, Haverhill, and the Merrimack Valley. With the support of our Merrimack Valley delegation, I was proud to secure $500,000 for major wastewater infrastructure projects in Methuen to prevent combined sewer overflows (CSOs) into the Merrimack River. The bill includes an additional $100 million for water and sewer projects that will be distributed to communities as grants.

I was also proud to support successful amendments for UTEC's food distribution efforts in the Merrimack Valley (filed by Rep. Frank Moran); Groundwork Lawrence's tree planting initiative in Lawrence and Methuen (filed by Rep. Marcos Devers); and local projects in Haverhill, including food pantry assistance, violence prevention, emergency aid, and Winnekenni Park improvements (filed by Rep. Andy Vargas).

Additional highlights of the House bill include:

- $500 million to replenish the Unemployment Trust Fund
- $500 million to provide bonuses to essential workers who worked in-person during the COVID-19 State of Emergency
- $500 million for housing supports and affordable housing production
- $260 million in tax relief and grants for small businesses
- $250 million to support financially strained hospitals
- $250 million for behavioral health and addiction treatment services
- $150 million to promote employment through workforce skills training
- $100 million for public school districts to create safe learning environments
- $78 million to address food insecurity
- $50 million to expand secure Internet access statewide
- Funding to create a public database and website to track spending, ensuring accountable, equitable, and responsible investments

The House and Senate are currently undergoing negotiations to send a final version of the bill to Governor Baker's desk.

Additionally, more than $9 billion in funding for infrastructure will soon be on its way to Massachusetts from the federal infrastructure bill that President Biden has signed into law. This funding will go toward highway improvements, public transportation, combined sewer overflow mitigation, broadband access, and much more. We will continue to partner with our federal delegation to ensure that this funding addresses critical needs in the Merrimack Valley. Through smart investments, we can ensure a strong recovery.

State Representative Linda Dean Campbell represents the cities of Methuen and Haverhill in the State Legislature. She serves as House Chair of the Joint Committee on Advanced IT, the Internet and Cybersecurity and as Chair of the Special Joint Oversight Committee on the Holyoke Soldiers' Home COVID-19 Outbreak. She can be reached at Linda.Campbell@mahouse.gov or (617) 722-2380. ◊

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Lawrence Mayor Brian DePena Hits the Ground Running

Each Month The Valley Patriot will spotlight Lawrence's new Mayor Brian DePena and his efforts to revitalize Lawrence. DePena took office last month after defeating Acting-Mayor Kendrys Vasquez. Vasquez was filling the term of Dan Rivera, who abandoned his job to take a position with Republican Governor Charlie Baker.

MAYOR NAMES TRANSITION TEAM

Upon being sworn in last month, Mayor DePena hired a transition team and hit the ground running right out of the gate.

DePena hired embattled former HR director Frank Bonet as Chief of Staff, Claudia Hoyos as Executive Assistant, Pedro Beato as Special Assistant, Jhovanni Martes as Special Assistant, and Octavia Spanner as Senior Advisor on a volunteer basis.

MAYOR TOURS MVRTA FREE FARE PROGRAM

Mayor DePena said last month that he was very pleased by the unanimous vote of The Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority (MVRTA) Board to go fare-free for all local fixed-route and EZ Trans paratransit services, except for the Boston Commuter bus, starting March 1, 2022, for at least a 2-year pilot.

"Many people in our city count on the MVRTA, particularly the most vulnerable population, our elderly and disabled population, and low-income residents. I am glad that the Board extended the fare-free program. Our administration is contemplating the idea of expanding this program in the future, said Mayor DePena.

This pilot is an expansion of the already fare-free routes 34 (Prospect Hill), 37 (Beacon Street), and 85 (Lawrence Downtown Shuttle) since September 2019. It is supported with funding from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, also known as the CARES Act.

"The decision to waive fares for Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority riders is a game-changer for folks across the region who rely on public transit for their commutes. I was proud to vote for the CARES Act last year and applaud the Board for putting funding from the relief package to use helping Merrimack Valley residents and small businesses working to recover from the pandemic," Congresswoman Trahan explains.

Some of the many advantages of a fare-free transit system include winning back riders who stopped riding during the COVID-19 pandemic, returning dollars to the local economy, increased access for people having a hard time affording transportation, faster, and more efficient trips, and reduced conflicts between drivers and passengers.

In addition, another factor supporting the budget-conscious Board's decision to go fare-free is the high cost and inefficiency of collecting fares. As MVRTA Administrator Noah Berger noted, "for every dollar, we collect in fares, we only see less than 24 cents when the fully allocated costs of collecting fares are factored in."

The MVRTA was one of the state's early adopters of fare-free service after the City of Lawrence funded fare-free service on three local bus routes – the 34 to Prospect Hill, the 37 along Beacon Street, and the 85 Downtown Shuttle – in the fall of 2019. All three of those routes run every 30 minutes on weekdays and hourly on Saturdays.

MAYOR AND GOVERNOR FOCUS ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN LAWRENCE

Mayor Welcomes State Funding for Economic and Community Development

On Thursday, December 2nd, Mayor Brian A. DePena joined Secretary of Housing and Economic Development Mike Kenneal, MassDevelopment CEO Dan Rivera, the Lawrence State Delegation, and city officials to celebrate new funding awarded through Community One Stop for Growth.

Lawrence CommunityWorks received two awards through the One-Stop, a $455,000 grant through the new Underutilized Properties Program, and a $100,000 Urban Agenda grant, while the City of Lawrence was awarded $750,000 from the Site Readiness Program.

"Our administration is grateful for the support that the city and our Lawrence CommunityWorks partners have received through the One-Stop for Growth Grant Program. The COVID-19 pandemic has negatively impacted our businesses and community development, and this support will help us continue to advance these critical economic and community development projects," said the mayor.

"Through the One Stop for Growth, we are pleased to partner with both local organizations like Lawrence CommunityWorks and municipalities like the City of Lawrence to support a range of initiatives from concept to construction," said Governor Charlie Baker. "Through these three awards, our Administration can continue to support locally driven plans that unlock new opportunities for economic and community development."

MARRINER BUILDING

The non-profit Lawrence CommunityWorks is redeveloping the 450,000 square foot Marriner Building at 602-610 Broadway into a mixed-use facility and will use a $455,000 Underutilized Properties Program award to continue renovating the ground floor into commercial space.

Making the ground-floor space tenant-ready will allow for potential additional revenue streams to support the ongoing project, which includes two distinct housing components. In July, the Department of Housing and Community Development made an affordable rental housing award to Trinity Financial in support of one of those housing developments, which will result in 87 total units of new housing. Previously, MassDevelopment also provided awards from the Commonwealth's Brownfields Redevelopment Fund in FY18 ($88,770) and FY21 ($88,940) and Site Readiness Program in FY18 ($50,000), FY20 ($250,000), and FY21 ($135,000) to support redevelopment of the Marriner Building.

DYEWORKS BUILDING

Lawrence CommunityWorks also received a $100,000 Urban Agenda grant to support the transformative development of the historic, 35,000 square foot single-story DyeWorks building and surrounding East Island neighborhood. Anchored by a LatinX-owned and -oriented healthy supermarket, the DyeWorks project will include pharmacy, nutrition, and behavioral health services offered by the Greater Lawrence Family Health Center (GLFHC) and incorporate financial capability and youth development services provided on-site by LCW's experienced program staff. The Urban Agenda funds will be used to hire a Project Director, who will support capital campaign activities and consulting services, and move the project into the next stage of the redevelopment process.



Newly elecected Lawrence Mayor Brian DePena rides on the MVRTA new Free Fare Line



Mayor DePena and former Mayor Dan Rivera at Merrimac Paper.

$750,000 for MERRIMACK PAPER

The City of Lawrence will use a $750,000 Site Readiness Program grant for work at the Merrimac Paper Site at 7, 9, and 16 South Canal Street by leveraging $1,650,000 in additional funding to support building demolition. The redevelopment of the area has been a long-term goal for Lawrence and is targeted for light industrial uses.

"My administration is grateful for the support the city and our partners at Lawrence CommunityWorks have received through the Community One Stop for Growth Program," Mayor Brian A. Depeña said.

"The COVID-19 Pandemic has negatively impacted the progress of small business growth and development activity in Lawrence. This support will help us continue to advance these important housing and economic development projects."

"It is inspiring to see the Commonwealth's economic development agencies collaborate with the community in Lawrence in such a meaningful way," said Representative Marcos A. Devers. "These projects will address critical needs in our city, and I look forward to seeing them completed."

MAYOR WORKING WITH HARVARD KENNEDY SCHOOL

Mayor DePena is actively working with professors and students at Harvard Kennedy School to work on housing and education in Lawrence. The mayor is also working with the school to help improve economic development.

"I know people think we need more low-income housing but what Lawrence really needs is market rate housing and new businesses. We need to find a way to bring them here but also keep them here." he told The Valley Patriot in an exclusive interview.

Here is the outline the mayor is looking at developing as the partnership moves forward:

1. Economic Development

The student will focus on assessing the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Lawrence. He/she will explore the current state of the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Lawrence by preparing an inventory of the number/type of businesses as well as an understanding of their growth needs.

Student will also focus on what are the challenge to business starts ups and business in their early-growth stage.

The background research will result in the student recommending the elements of an entrepreneurial ecosystem including capacity building, capital access and identification of business growth opportunities (e.g., procurement). The goal is to create economic development policy that focuses on incumbent assets of the city's residents.

2. Housing

The students will focus on understanding and assessing the housing needs of Lawrence's residents. Research will focus on current market conditions including the number of households that are cost-burdened and severely cost-burdened. He/she will make recommendations to preserve and create new market, workforce, and affordable housing. The goal is for the student to help Lawrence plan, launch and evaluate evidence-based local housing policies and strategies that increase access to opportunity and improve long-term

DEPENA: PAGE 14

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Santiago Reyes Cruz, Jr.
PART OWNER, VALLEY PATRIOT

What's next for Lawrence?

Election season is finally over. Former City Councilor Brian DePena has officially been sworn in as the new Mayor of Lawrence and will serve until 2026. DePena is a local Dominican businessman who has a clear strategy as to how he'll improve the city.

What does the Mayor's plan look like?

The plan is simple and executable because DePena really doesn't care about politics, who is connected to whom, or who has a bad reputation. He is focused only on solving the problems facing our city. The Mayor's strategy plan is aimed at making Lawrence a healthier & safer place for all kids to be raised in. He will fight hard to educate & save kids from being recruited by negative influences such as activist teachers, gangs, drugs, and racist community activists.

Proving once again that he cares more about getting things done, and less about the petty politics of division, Mayor DePena has tasked Valley Patriot publisher Tom Duggan to head an ad-hoc committee to combat homelessness and addiction. The only people surprised by this are those who who know nothing about Lawrence, Duggan, or Mayor DePena.

~ Santiago Reyes-Cruz, Jr.
Dist. "B" School Committeeman-elect



The following are four points which will be used to combat such negative influences:

#1 The Mayor plans to work with parents to enroll kids in after school programs such as Lawrence C.A.R.E.S. The acronym C.A.R.E.S stands for Citizens Actively Restoring Essential Surroundings. Because the Lawrence Schools are doing such a terrible job educating our children, it's clear that more needs to be done outside of the regular school day to prepare our children for success. Mayor DePena gets that and is ready to implement "outside the box" solutions.

#2 Mayor DePena has tasked Valley Patriot publisher Tom Duggan to work on homeless issues as head of an ad-hoc

SANTIAGO: PAGE 12

Trinitarios Gang Member from Lawrence Pleads Guilty to Trafficking Multiple Guns, Ammunition, Cocaine & Crack

BOSTON – A member of the Trinitarios street gang pleaded guilty yesterday in federal court in Boston in connection with trafficking firearms, ammunition, cocaine, and crack cocaine in the Greater Lawrence area.

Jose Omar Hernandez-Aragones, 24, a Dominican national residing in Lawrence, pleaded guilty to four counts of being a felon in possession of a firearm; one count of possession with intent to distribute and distribution of cocaine; and one count of possession with intent to distribute and distribution of cocaine base, commonly known as crack cocaine. U.S. District Court Judge Leo T. Sorokin scheduled sentencing for March 22, 2022.

Hernandez-Aragones was indicted and arrested in November 2019 as part of a federal sweep targeting federal and state offenders, including members and associates of the Trinitarios street gang, in the Greater Lawrence area.

The Valley Patriot was on the scene as a joint task force arrested the gang members in 2019.

Beginning in 2017, law enforcement conducted an investigation into the members, associates, and suppliers of the Trinitarios operating in the Greater Lawrence area. The Trinitarios is a street gang originating in the New York area with increased presence in Lawrence and the surrounding communities. According to court documents, many Trinitarios members are involved in a broad range of illegal activities including, but not limited to, firearms and drug trafficking as well as violent crimes undertaken to protect the interests of the gang and its members.

During the investigation, Hernandez-Aragones was identified as a member of the Trinitarios. On four separate occasions between May and July 2018, Hernandez-Aragones sold at least nine guns, ammunition, cocaine, and crack cocaine to a cooperating witness. Specifically, Hernandez-Aragones sold the cooperating witness two handguns and ammunition for $1,900 on May 16, 2018; a bulletproof vest, a loaded 9 mm handgun, a SKS rifle and a magazine containing ammunition for the rifle on June 4, 2018; two handguns and approximately 55.4 grams of a substance containing cocaine July 3, 2018; as well as three guns, one of which was stolen, and approximately 8.7 grams of a substance containing crack cocaine on July 13, 2018. Hernandez-Aragones is prohibited from possessing firearms and ammunition due to a 2016 conviction of assault that was punishable by more than one year in prison.

The charge of being a felon in possession of a firearm provides for a sentence of up to 10 years in prison, up to



three years of supervised release and a fine of $250,000. The charge of distribution and possession with intent to distribute cocaine or cocaine base provides for a sentence of up to 20 years in prison, at least three years and up to a lifetime of supervised release and a fine of up to $1 million. Sentences are imposed by a federal district judge based on the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

Acting United States Attorney Nathaniel R. Mendell; Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Division; James Ferguson, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Boston Field Division; Matthew B. Mollhollin, Special Agent in Charge of Homeland Security Investigations, Boston Field Division; Essex County District Attorney Jonathan W. Blodgett; Colonel Christopher Mason, Superintendent of the Massachusetts State Police; Commissioner Carol Mici of the Massachusetts Department of Corrections; and Lawrence Police Chief Roy P. Vasque made the announcement. Assistant U.S. Attorney John Mulcahy of Mendell's Criminal Division is prosecuting the case.◊



FLAG: FROM PAGE 9

Norfolk Naval Base for the duration of the war, rising to the rank of U.S. Navy Lieutenant.

Following his military service, Tourigny moved from Gardner to Lawrence, married his wife Rita and the couple raised seven children. He owned a construction company and died in 2001 at the age of 83.

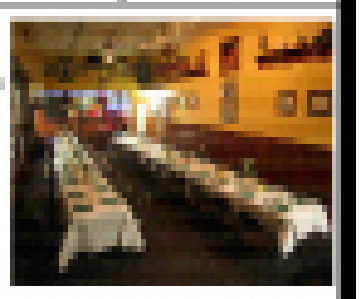
Several years ago, Twomey was visiting the GFB Scottish Pub in Old Orchard Beach when he couldn't help but notice an array of colorful military flags hanging from the ceiling there. One flag was missing though, that of the U.S. Merchant Marines, so Twomey asked the pub's owners, Bob, and Kelly Greenlaw, if he could donate a Merchant Marine flag inscribed with Tourigny's name and hang it alongside the others there.

The Greenlaws agreed and Twomey had the flag made and it is now part of the GFB Scottish Pub's permanent display of flags.

"We support all military branches and consider the Merchant Marines to be a real part of our war effort in World War II and what they did showed courage and patriotism," Bob Greenlaw said. "We're very pleased that this flag will join other military flags now at the pub and we're grateful to Dave Twomey for remembering his uncle and the contributions of the Merchant Marines through this project."

Twomey said he was grateful to be able to donate the flag to honor the memory of Tourigny's service in the U.S. Merchant Marines.

"If my uncle was here today, he would be very proud to see that flag hanging in the pub," Twomey said. "It's been quite a process to see this project through from start to finish but it's been worth it to see the Merchant Marines' bravery and courage during World War II recognized in this way. Their contributions have been largely forgotten and this flag certainly keeps the memory of my uncle and other Marchant Marines alive." ◊

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SANTIAGO: FROM PAGE 11

homelessness committee. There is no doubt that homelessness and addiction have ravaged the city over the last 5 years. Previous mayors ignored the problem, making it far worse for all of us. With this one move alone, Mayor DePena has shown that he cares more about getting things done and solving problems than appeasing the political insiders.

#3 The Mayor is working with outside education institutions to orientate people on local environmentalism and housing (see page 4). Reducing the amount of litter and vacant properties which have scarred the city is a top priority. DePena is already working with his team to clean up the city and working with Harvard to address the property issues. Neighborhood and park clean ups are great for one day, but to truly clean up the city it is going to take the full effort of DPW, Inspectional Services, and the general public.

4 The Mayor plans on strengthening relationships with surrounding cities to address common areas of concern. There is no reason why Lawrence has to be burdened with providing all of the methadone clinics and social services needed by residents of the rest of the Merrimack Valley.

Many of Lawrence's problem come from Methuen, Andover, and other cities. Mayor DePena understands there needs to be a regional approach to issues like prostitution, homelessness, gang violence, and drug distribution - forcing other communities to work with us on solving these problems and taking responsibility for their own citizens who end up in Lawrence looking for help.

There are some politicians who promise you the world to get elected and then do nothing to solve any real problems once they get in.

Mayor DePena only promised one thing, to put the people first. So far, however, he has already shown he is doing so much more.

All this will surely help beautify the City of Lawrence MA.

I am excited to see the city grow! ◊

Stadium Chiropractic



NEW LOCATION! 2 DURSO AVE
BEHIND TACO BELL IN LAWRENCE

Dr. John Armano is pleased to announce the opening of Stadium Chiropractic PC located at 2 Durso Ave in Lawrence, adjacent to the Registry of Motor Vehicles behind Taco Bell. Dr. John Armano has been serving the Merrimack Valley for the past 31 years specializing in injury rehab sports medicine, as well as pain management for acute and chronic conditions. Dr. Cindy Armano has been serving Boston's North shore for the past 31 years also specializing in injury rehab, as well as family care and nutritional counseling. PHONE: (508) 350-7036. Se Habla Espanol.

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Mon-Thurs: 11am - 10pm
Fri-Sat: 11am - 11:30pm
Sunday: 12noon - 9:30pm





METHUEN -- Police Chief Scott McNamara welcomed the newest member of the MPD, Officer Steven DiLeo. DikLeo graduated from the Northern Essex Community College (NECC) Police Academy on Friday, Nov. 19th, where he received the physical fitness award. Officer DiLeo is a lifelong Methuen resident. He is a 2013 graduate of Methuen High, and went on to serve six years in the U.S. Army Reserves while also working as a member of the grounds crew at NECC.



Methuen welcomed two new dispatchers this month who graduated from the State 911 Department Public Safety Communications Academy. Yenifer Cabreja and Larissa Alves both started in new roles with the MPD this month after graduating from the academy run by the State 911 Department. Both dispatchers speak multiple languages. Dispatcher Alves speaks Brazilian Portuguese, Spanish and English fluently. Dispatcher Cabreja speaks both Spanish and English fluently.



“It’s great to be 100,” resident Anthony DeFusco told us as he was surrounded by family, the Mayor of Methuen, Neil Perry, members of the Fire and Police Departments as well as a representative from the U.S Marine Corps. When Mayor Perry’s office became aware that a Marine living at Methuen Village was turning 100 his team put together a motorcade of Police Cruisers and Fire Engines along with a representative of the Marines. They came bearing gifts and the Mayor presented him with a proclamation. Happy Birthday Tony, we were so happy to spend the day with you.

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Brian DePena

HERO: FROM PAGE 1

In the United States, the enlisted Medics usually worked under direct supervision of nurses and doctors, who were commissioned officers. But, in the field, during combat operations throughout the Vietnam theater, many enlisted medics performed very complex and often lifesaving medical procedures.

Two of his stories, struck me. The first was a rocket attack, hearing the incoming rockets, Don took cover under a bed, near an injured North Vietnamese soldier. The injured Communist soldier was waiting to be transported to a holding area. The rocket hit the roof of the hospital, Don estimated about twenty feet from him, blowing a hole in the roof. He and the wounded North Vietnamese Army, also known as NVA, soldier survived the attack, unscathed. The injured NVA soldier never moved, took cover, or even flinched during the attack. Don respected the NVA soldier's coolness under fire. Telling me, the NVA soldier was "just a young teenager."

On the lighter side, he told me about a fellow soldier, who opened a care package full of hard candy from the United States. Using the candy as "makeup," he pretended he was a woman. The First Sargent sent him for a psychological evaluation, before he could be evaluated, the soldier removed the "makeup," and had the last laugh on their First Sargent.

Don returned from Vietnam, was sent to Fort Hood to finish his term of service, and then married the young woman from Lowell he was dating when drafted, Jeannette. The couple moved back to Dracut and raised their daughter, Sharon. Don went back to construction work after he left the Army, retiring in 2019. His wife passed away a few years back, and he now spends his time involved with his church, St Francis in Dracut, and spending time with his family. A Boy Scout Leader with Troop 25 in Dracut, his grandson Thomas, just reached the rank of Eagle Scout under his guidance.

Ironically, he served in Vietnam in 1968, and recently with sixty-eight other Vietnam Veterans, on November 10th, he received the Vietnam Veteran's lapel pin from the Town of Dracut. In September, with twelve other Vietnam Veterans, he made a trip to the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington. The twelve Veterans went to "Harry's Bar," wheeling one of their comrades in his wheelchair into the bar. At the bar, the Veterans met the parents of US Marine Sgt. Nicole Gee, twenty-three years old, recently killed in action in Afghanistan at Kabul Airport. The couple was in town to bury their daughter at Arlington National Cemetery. The Vietnam Veterans were very upset that this couple, who just lost their daughter, were left on their own by the US Government, the US Army, and our elected officials, so the Veterans connected the couple with the agency, Veterans Assisting Veterans for assistance.

Helping fellow Veteran's, over fifty years after his own service in Vietnam, Don Jussaume, is truly a "Hero in Our Midst"!

The Dracut American Legion asks all World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War Veterans, to call (603) 518-5368 and sign up for an Honor Flight to the Memorials in Washington DC! Veterans of all eras are asked to go the American Legion's Web site www.legion.org, and join the American Legion, preserving our Veteran's Benefits for future generations.

John Cuddy served in the US Navy's Construction Battalions (also known as the Seabees) after retiring from the US Navy; he earned a bachelor's in history and a master's in economics from the University of Massachusetts



on the Lowell Campus. He has been employed in Logistics at FedEx for the last 25 years. If you know a World War II, Korean War, or Vietnam War, Veteran who would like their story told, please email him at John.Cuddy@Yahoo.com ◊

THE DOCTOR IS IN!

Multiple Sclerosis

Dr. Pierre Ghassibi
VALLEY PATRIOT MEDICAL COLUMNIST

Greetings all,

Multiple Sclerosis (MS), Lupus, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Vitiligo, and Scleroderma are very serious diseases, although they can present as a spectrum with milder manifestations in some people, and very serious in others.

We do not know the cause of these, but I have opinions. I have the right to have my opinion as long as I am upfront in admitting that I could be wrong. Let me set the stage:

People love to take supplements and get angry if you tell them not to. The same goes for cleaning agents, beauty products, vitamins, perfumes, etc. We know that the FDA does not monitor these, and their long-term effects on the body is not well known at all. Some of these products are not digested and excreted, but remain in our tissues.

The proof is that nowadays, tissue biopsies from most people are showing that our tissues contain very, very many substances that they are not supposed to contain. This is not my opinion; it is established science. So, is it possible that our immune system that functions to attack foreign substances is starting to attack our own tissues, our own body that is imbibed with foreign material?

Many athletes use all sorts of enhancing chemicals (I have seen serious liver damage from these), people use way too many detergents, antiseptics. makeup, moisturizers, etc. People do not seem to realize that chemicals are more dangerous than bacteria. Many skin problems come from too much hygiene like Pruritus Ani, and facial, vulvar and hand dermatitis. I have seen a number of children with vulvar dermatitis getting a whole workup for sexual abuse when the problem was overuse of paper baby wipes!

Asbestos, aniline dyes, tobacco. Pioglitazone. All can cause cancer!

We cannot stay away from many of these chemicals, but maybe less of them is better, as much as possible. This is too serious a fact to be ignored.

You can submit your questions or comments to Dr. P. Ghassibi, MD at ghassibi@hotmail.com ◊

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VACANT LAND - ASSETS

3. Vacant land and real estate assets

The rescue of vacant land, excess land and abandoned structures can represent an opportunity for the economic growth and prosperous recovery of Lawrence.

Students will focus on creating an inventory and identification system of publicly owned assets e.g., land, structures, property in arrears, as well as identifying vacant land owned by others especially anchor institutions.

For Lawrence to take advantage of this resource, it must first know what the real estate assets are and how much vacant property exists within its border, where it exists, and the condition of its supply.

Student will also examine existing organizational structures to see whether changes are for tracking, monitoring, and impactful disposition. The student will make recommendations on creating a consolidated and streamlined process for collecting data and disposing of vacant land and assets.

4. Mayor DePena, said his desire is for the students to coordinate with Department of Public Works (Director, CIP, Engineer, Water and Sewer) to compile a list of infrastructure and capital improvement projects. This information is crucial in preparation for the Biden infrastructure funding allocation. ◊

BENEATH THE SURFACE

Will Roe v. Wade Finally be Overturned?

Paul Murano
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

This month the Supreme Court justices of the United States convened with lawyers from both sides of the Dobbs vs. Jackson case; a case that might finally be the death knell of Roe vs. Wade.

The audio of the arguments for the case and the questioning from the twelve justices were aired live for the nation to hear. We won't know the Court's decision until June.

Unsurprisingly, the questioning of the Supreme Court's liberal justices seemed to reaffirm their devotion to legal abortion. These judges represent the Leftist claim that a right to abortion is found in the 'liberty' clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution. What does this mean and should it matter? Let's go beneath the surface.

According to liberal judges and politicians, abortion must be legal in all 50 states across the country because it's constitutional; and it's constitutional because, as the fourteenth amendment states, "[N]or shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law."

How does this relate to abortion? Remember, if something is not in the Constitution, the Supreme Court must always leave the decision up to the states and their respective legislatures. So, where is abortion in this phrase of the Constitution?

The short answer is that it's not there. This leads us to the next logical question: How does the Left see the word abortion in that phrase? Their argument is twofold: a) the right to bodily autonomy, they claim, can be found in the word liberty, and b) one's right to liberty trumps another's right to life. These two claims, however, are grounded on falsehoods, the first epistemological, the second moral. In other words, they are based on a false understanding of liberty and a bad ordering of values.

When it comes to liberty, we must note the classical understanding of the term and the modern understanding – and why they're different. Liberty always used to mean the right to do the good. This assumes there are objective goods that include the individual and society. Today liberty has been redefined to mean the right to do what one wants, without governmental interference. Notice the first is 'freedom TO' whereas the second is 'freedom FROM'.

Since the pre-modern definition of liberty presumes the reality of good and evil, in order to redefine the word modernists had to reject or ignore the objective moral order. They ended up substituting it with a utilitarian ethic. Liberty is now seen as the freedom to do what you want, without governmental interference, as long as more pleasure than pain results from it. And it is the agent, the person doing the act according to his or her selfish interests, who gets to be the judge.

Let's see how this definition of liberty fits with the question of abortion. The person choosing the act, the mother, decides it's best for her, and perhaps even her baby, to end the preborn child's life. According to the Left, no other considerations are needed and no outside influence ought to interfere with this decision. Whether the act is good or evil, just or unjust, is not even a question.

The second problem with this new definition constructed by the Left is the moral reordering of goods that flow from it. Notice how in both the U.S. Constitution and Declaration of Independence, three basic rights are named in the order of their value. In the Constitution it's "life, liberty, and property," and in the Declaration it's "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." This order follows right reason. One cannot pursue happiness without liberty, and one cannot have liberty without life. Life is the primary good from which all other rights flow. It must be preserved and protected, by government if necessary.

In short, the reconstructed reality of the Left is built upon on redefining a key word in the Constitution and then reordering key values therein. By redefining liberty and switching the primary good from life and liberty, the argument is made that the woman's liberty trumps the child's life. This sleight of hand violates the both the Constitution and right reason.

The starkly different perspectives on abortion are often expressed as political positions, but it goes much deeper than that. The modern Leftist challenge to the traditional order of truth and justice unveils a selfishness and apathy toward neighbor, laying the foundation for a culture of death. It extends past killing one's offspring to foisting transgender ideology on children, forcing critical race theory and porn in schools, and pretending sodomy is natural human behavior that can be called marriage.

If Roe is indeed overturned in June 2022, hell will break loose, literally. Unless there is repentance and healing of heart and soul, the minds of those infected with the spiritual disease of secular progressivism will remain blinded; and their inner rage will not rest unless their lust for death is satisfied.

Paul is producer and host of Beneath the Surface video podcasts, he taught college philosophy & theology, and is a producer/writer for St. Michael's Media. Check out his website at Paulmurano.com. E-mail Paul at PJDM@aol.com

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William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the Commonwealth
of Massachusetts

ANDOVER

Rhino Andover Collection LLC, 6 Riverside Owner LLC, $12,400,000, 6 Riverside Dr

Stephen & Lisa Andrews, James & Stephanie Gorrie, $1,501,646 , 16 Karlton Cir

Dennis and Cheryl Johnson, Chad & Kerry Friesz, $1,440,000, 17 Chongris Cir

SAI Builders LLC, Heather Macaulay, $1,250,000, 5 Tucker Rd

Karina Rabelo & Viviane Lima, Fang Hao & Yu Zhang, $1,135,000, 128 Andover St

Leanne Pollitt, Gideon Cohen & Caroline Schwartz, $1,112,000, 5 Cricket Cir

Chad & Kerry Friesz, Sheri Radoux, $1,070,000, 8 Sunset Rock Rd

Jacob & Lindy & James Olds, Carolyn & Michael Bednarz, $1,005,000 , 29 Karlton Cir

Emily & Joel Keefe, Samuel Hutchinson & Emily Bunting, $975,000 , 55 Lucerne Dr

Douglas Cornell Revocable Tr & Nancy Cornell Revocable Tr & Nancy Cornell Tr & Douglas Cornell Tr, Eric Polanik & Amanda Buchanan, $975,000, 22 Hearthstone Pl

Matthew Brennan & Kayla Dufton, Christopher Lascelle & Severina Haddad, $950,000 , 145 Hidden Rd

Meghan & David Metzemaekers, Mathter & Sarah Fitzpatrick, $937,000, 19 Arundel St

Mary Davis, Michael & Katherine Marciano, $885,000, 16 Timothy Dr

Ruth Weiner Tr & 3 Mohawk Realty Tr, Thomas & Gail Buckley, $865,100, 3 Mohawk Rd

Pinakin & Harsha Mehta, Mariska Pierce, $845,000, 9 Pauline Dr

20 Sheridan Rd LLC & Robert Burnham, Jennifer Webb, $830,000 , 20 Sheridan Rd

Ma-dam Realty Trust & Gary Kress & Glenn Damon, William & Brenda Baldwin, $825,000, 27 Bradley Rd

Steven & Elizabeth Leed, Patricia Grant Tr & Patricia Grant 2005 Family Tr, $825,000, 24 William St

Carl & Patricia Anderson, Daniel & Andrea Kassner, $825,000, 114 Bailey Rd

Trevor Moore, Caroline Higgins , $800,000, 18 Summer St Unit 4

Arthur & Irene Demoulas, Dana McCoy Tr & Ithaca Nominee Tr, $750,000, 459 Lowell St

Clinton & Elizabeth Reiser, Dat Nguyen & Thu Tran, $730,000, 19 Argyle St

Duarte Realty Trust & Richard Duarte Tr & Linda Duarte Tr, Susana Cenanovic & Gloria Carrasco, $725,000, 31 School St Unit 1

Eberson Soares, Patrick & Katherine Burke, $720,000, 92 Greenwood Rd

FSB Homes LLC, Alicia Scarpa, $709,000, 50 Enmore St

Anthony & Caroline Adams, Vikas Shivashankar & Sowmya Shankar, $657,000, 9 Flint Cir

Nancy Pike, Stephen & Kathleen Welch, $620,000, 82 Pine St

Katherine Goldstein & Michael & Katherine Marciano, Jennifer Fecteau, $620,000, 5 Oak St

Hyesoon Kim, Buxton Redevelopment LLC, $600,000, 35 Pearson St

Denise Van Campen, FSB Homes LLC, $600,000, 11 Walnut Ave

Robert & Ann Michaels & Ann Fay, Sarah Perkins & Peter His, $585,000, 168 Chestnut St

Steven Zuccaro, Scott Johnson, $534,000, 150 High Plain Rd

Elaine Page, Daniel & Laura Zawalich, $525,000, 90 Summer St

Aaron & Bonnie Dorlando, Jam Realty Trust LLC, $525,000, 117 Bellevue Rd

Julie Fitzgerald & Michael Motsinger, Patrick & Constance Scanlon, $501,000, 15 Morton St

John Sullivan, Anthony Sullivan, $500,000, 75 Lovejoy Rd

Arthur & Irene Demoulas, Dana McCoy Tr & Ithaca Nominee Tr, $475,000, 69 Haggets Pond Rd

Mustali & Tasneem Dohadwala & Naseem Dahod, Hongjia Li & Xiadi Gao, $475,000, 1000 Spring Valley Dr Unit 1002

Carolyn & Robert & Razvan Popescu-Pretor, Tse Dan, $450,000, 40 Chestnut St Unit 1

Kristen & Daniel Canterbury, Portillo Management LLC, $435,000 , 26 Boston Rd

PSJ Realty LLC, Sean Wadland, $425,000, 1-3 Elm Ct

Susan Sughrue Tr & John & Jacqueline Robinson Nominee Tr, Neil Robinson & Susan Sughrue, $400,000 , 13 Rattlesnake Hill Rd

Lisa Ryan & Mary Beth Carson, Bay Flow LLC, $345,000, 27 High Plain Rd

Louise Devincenzi, James Heise & Amy Roderick, $340,000 , 80 Poor St Unit 1

Richard and Marie Licciardi, Jessica Chartier, $292,403 , 16 Balmoral St Unit 403

Kristen & Wilhelm Faria , Ricardo DeMoura, $290,000, 40 Colonial Dr Unit 40

Laura McBride & Daniel & Laura Zawalich, Mary Wirtz & Jose Silveria, $275,000, 100.5 Main St Unit R

Rocco Pasquariello, Keith & Lynn Wentzel, $257,000, 148 Main St Unit A-216

William Bailey, James Awrach, $249,900, 4 Longwood Dr

Thomas Pappavaselio Tr & Cathy Pappavaselio Tru & Cathy Pappavaselio Living Tr, Delia Day, $243,000, 4 Colonial Dr Unit B4-7

Pensco Trust Co & Anne Marie & Associates LLC, 275 South Main Street LLC, $120,000, 275 South Main St

Gerald Levesque Tr & Gerald Levesque Revocable Tr of December 27 2000, John & Cynthia Givens, $12,000, 0 Marland St

Arther & Irene Demoulas, Dana McCoy Tr & Ithaca Nominee Tr, $3,150,000, 72 Haggetts Pond Rd

Dona Marie Kwolyk Tr & Bohdan & Dona Tr, Michael Motsinger & Julie Fitzgerald, $840,000, 124 Summer St

LAWRENCE

415 South Boradway Realty LLC, South Broadway Ventures LLC, $800,000, 405 South Broadway & 411-415 South Broadway

Nicholas & Deborah Maucieri, Marlon Santana, $760,000, 82 Oak St

Ramiro Lopez, Noel Jerez, $740,000, 199-205 Prospect St

Jonathan Kuipers, Temil & Darlin Sanchez, $730,000, 950-952 Essex St

Gamaliel Vazquez, Maria Dilone & Jordanny & Mariely Hidalgo, $700,000, 1-3 Reservoir Ter

Diony Cruz-Guzman & Paopla Sanchez, Erick Bastardo, $700,000, 27-29 Easton St

Socrates & Rodolfo Leguen & Lirda Leger, Yessica Leger, $696,800, 24-26 Oregon Ave

Dale Tunstall Tr & Dale R Tunstall Revocable Tr , Angel Bone, $660,000, 52-54 Olive Ave

Aristides & Noemi Eusebio, Dominga & Estefany Mejia, $660,000, 51 Ames St

Rafael Mejia, Yartiza Mejia & Darwin Rivera, $650,000, 434 Prospect St

Nicholas & Deborah Maucieri, Erwin Mata, $640,000, 86-88 Oak St

Jenifel Sanchez, Maria Agramonte & Genesis & Erlyn Camilo, $627,000, 566-568 Andover St

Ifigenia Nunez & Frank Apolinar, Yngrid Vasquez-Villa & Naomi Guzman, $625,000, 83-85 Butler St

Ruben Tineo & Yeimi Sandoval, Geremy Infante, $621,365, 32-33 Portland St

Yanet Alonzo & Enercida Hernandez, Quilvio Monegro & Anny Vasquez, $600,000, 494 Haverhil St

Gerson Duarte, James & Christel Nazario, $600,000, 59 Syvester St

Antonia Cardona, Ramon Diaz & Lucia Decastillo, $600,000, 100 Tremont St

Wilson Ortiz, Darideivi Peguero & Gilliam & Argenis Sarante, $580,000, 1051-1053 Essex St

Rodelfy Seifer, Jhenrry Taverez & Zoila Melendez, $570,000, 33 Myrtle St

Mike Romano & Brigny Frias, Wilmer Atiencia, $570,000, 8 Katherine St

Nelsy Cintron, Bantroy Delos & Olrenda Martinez, $560,000, 11 Montgomery St

Sharon Hamel & Renae Berg, Noel Paulino & Wendy Se Santos, $550,000, 6 Wood Ln

Alfredo Santiago & Wanda Torres, Hugo Soto & Claudia Perez, $540,000, 24 Hilltop Ave

Kaprisky Santiago & Jose Castillo, Cherlee & Yonnes St. Rose, $515,000, 39 Abbott St

Swift Homes LLC, Jameel Charles-Balan , $510,000, 57 Cedar St

Yefry & Christopher Tavarez & Noelka Desuriel, Nilce Cuevas & Luz Bermudez, $500,000 , 8 Durso Ave

Friba LLC, Katty Duran, $500,000, 239-241 South Union St

Adonis Gonzalez & Maria Gonzalez, Marisol Matias-Capella & Ana Matias, $500,000, 110 Auburn St

Josephy Brady, Anny Lopez, $495,000, 42 Mount Vernon Cir

Tammy Ortega & Shawna Cruz, Darlyn Del Orbe, $489,000, 10 Tremont St

Scott Montanez & Heidi Gaudette, Chinedu Eke, $485,000, 31 Dartmouth St

Alex & Karen Lizardo, Gilberto Castillo-Medina, $470,000, 4 Lindner Ct

Daniel Berrios & Spencer Summers, Alicia Lugo, $470,000, 22 Crescent St

Yomayra Avila-Mercedes & Yomayra Avila-Santana, Juan Cornier & Dennis Parra-Mejia, $450,000, 60 Washington St

Rebecca Connors, Brian & Juanita Kontrath, $435,500, 22 Granville St

Jovonne Pena, Virgen Bautista, $431,000, 4 Rockwood Ln

Ram Gupta, Bernardo & Nathsha Tumbaco & Francisca Henriquez, $430,000, 56 Lake St

Pham Realty Tr & Anne Kiselev, Haddy Rodriguez & Melin Rojas, $421,000, 5 Exeter St

24 Emerald Avenue Realty Tr & Nancy Driscoll Tr, Mostafa Fitah & Oumkeltoume Benjelloun, $415,000, 34 Emerald Ave

Juan Roman, Jesus Puntier & Apolinar, $398,000, 3 Berkeley Ct

Lee & Jennie Foote & Miranda& Dominic Searles, Arlenny Gutierrez, $385,000, 85 South Bowdoin St

EK Real Estate Fund I LLC, Nysa Velazquez & Alberto Velazquez- Ortiz, $385,000, 79 Richmond Ct

Millwood Realty LLC, Yixuan Huang & Wei Zhang, $372,500, 543 Andover St Unit 4

Millwood Realty LLC, Jeffrey & Sophie Bissen, $372,000, 543 Andover St Unit 6

Virgen Bautista & Eugenio Nunez, Johanna Ortiz, $370,000, 63 King St

Millwood Realty LLC, Luis Cornieles, $365,000, 543 Andover St Unit 5

Hector Gonzalez, Ana Richardson & Wilson Rosario, $360,000, 222 High St

Bay Flow LLC, Luis Martinez & Javier Rios, $320,000 , 888 Essex St

Gretchen M Coco & Gretchen Lamere Est, Jose Betancourt, $300,000, 110 Genesee St

Ram Gupta, Ayesha Reyes-Delacruz & Ariel Portorreal, $280,000, 15B Crescent St Unit 10

David Beaulieu & Frederick Howard, Rosario Morel, $255,000, 124 High St Unit 10B

Frances Borrelli, I & M Red Door LLC, $215,000, 28 Berkeley St

Richard Macmulling, Gisell Salcedo & Ricardo Garcia, $201,000, 88 Beacon St Unit 12

JP LLC, JMG Andover Street Realty LLC, $200,000, 315-R Andover St

David & Nancy Benitez, Jose Garcia, $195,000 , 270 East Haverhill St Unit 10

US Bank Trust NA Tr, Luis Benzan, $185,000 , 20 Knox St Unit 2

Bruce & Dennis Sargent, Luz Guzman, $150,000, 78-80 Dracut St Unit 4

Isabel Rodriguez & Isabel & Ricardo Perez, Nancy Acosta, $101,275, 19 Josephine Ave

Art Silver, Gerald & Bridgid Pagliuca, $70,000 , 538 South Broadway

Brooks Properties I LLC, 94-104 Glenn Owner LLC, $37,000, 94-104 Glenn St

Miriam Herrera, Modesto Maldonado , $8,000, 135 Spruce St.

METHUEN

MCP II Branch Street LLC, MOB-5 Branch Street LLC, $29,500,000, 5 Branch St

Eleven Eighy Beacon Properties Inc & Village Mall Inc, Shri Swamine LLC, $12,500,000, 436 Broadway

Shadi & Josiane Asmar, Rakeshkumar & Nimisha Patel, $761,000, 18 Sevoian Dr

Edward Ramos-Abreu & Maria Viloria, Robert Ortiz-Polanco & Marlennys Tejeda, $692,000, 1-3 Walnut St

Donald & Joan Misler, North East Educational & Development Supports Center Inc, $675,000, 14 Kimball Cir

Alexandrino Souza & Valeria Campos, Jennifer Peralta & Diego Brito & Diego Zhicay, $675,000, 59 Booth Rd

Diverse Real Estate LLC, Maller Almanzar, $656,000, 86-88 Broadway

Richard Davis, Yinery De Pena & Bernardo & Alba Pena, $650,000 , 1-3 Larchwood Rd

Marie Laine , Angel Arias, $645,000, 86 Druid Hill Ave

Michael Warford , Oscar Abreu & Teresa Queliz, $620,000 , 21 Renfrew St

Wendy & Michael Tomaselli , Jeffrey Deleon & Katherine Estrada, $600,000, 195 Maple St

Elizabeth Wells, Lorangel Pena, $600,000, 17-19 Plymouth St

Phillip E Kendall Nominee Realty Tr & Ann Kendall Tr, Robert Paquin Tr & Robert L Paquin Revocable Tr- 2014, $595,000, 2 Herrick Dr Unit 1

Mark & Jean Carney, Sika & Jackie Eloi, $589,900, 14 Palermo St

Maria Koutny Tr & Sixteen- Eighteen Huntington Avenue Nominee Realty Tr, Nicole La Pietra & Luke Pereira , $585,000, 16-18 Huntington Ave

Daniel & Meaghan Sordillo, Thi &

REAL ESTATE: PAGE 22

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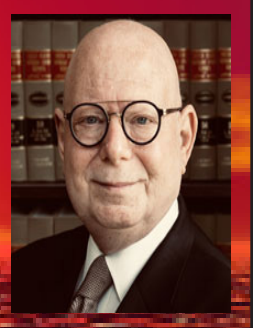


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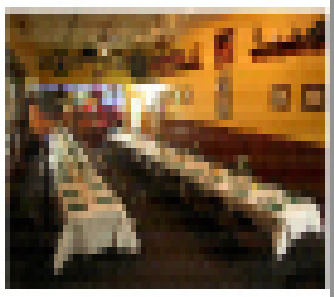
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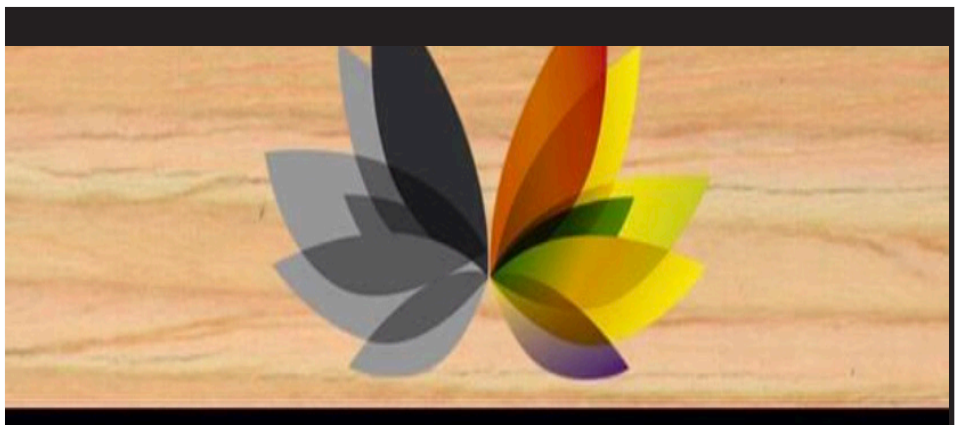
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Veteran Kevin Trayers prepares to drive his repaired Ford Fiesta out of the school building. At rear is Will Hatley, an employment specialist with the Veterans Administration in Bedford who connected Trayers with Second Chance Cars. (Photo Courtesy Greater Lawrence Technical School)

Greater Lawrence Tech Students Repair Vehicle for Area Veteran

ANDOVER — Superintendent John Lavoie is pleased to share that Greater Lawrence Technical School students recently repaired a car that has been donated to a veteran so that he has transportation for work.

Students, staff, and representatives of the non-profit Second Chance Cars presented the Ford Fiesta to U.S. Army veteran Kevin Trayers of Melrose. Trayers works full-time in security in Boston. His current vehicle with 180,000 miles was no longer safe, and Trayers was at risk of losing his job.

"For 32 years, people have been telling me, 'Thank you for your service.' I want to tell each and every one of you, 'Thank you for your service,'" Trayers told the group. "You have answered a call of honor."

"We want our students to have hands-on, real-world experiences," Superintendent Lavoie said. "Our students are also having that experience to help someone who truly needs help."

"It's important because this is a really good cause," said student Joshua Alcantara of Lawrence. "We're doing something for someone who needs help."

Trayers was referred to Second Chance Cars by Will Hatley, an employment specialist with the Veterans Administration in Bedford.

"Veterans face a lot of barriers, from legal issues to Social Security and child support," Hatley said. "Transportation is the number one issue. A job is important, but transportation is a basic way to get to work, and to provide support for your family."

Dan Holin, Executive Director of Second Chance Cars, told those gathered, "Because of your efforts, our community of goodness is delivering a car to a veteran in need today."

Second Chance Cars operates thanks to the donations of gently used vehicles from the public. To learn more about the nonprofit and the vehicle donation process, visit www.secondchancecars.org. ◊

YOUR HEALTH with RICK BELLANTI

Health Risks With Drinking Diet Sodas

When you are trying to reduce the sugar and calories you consume in your diet, you may be turning like everyone else, to products with sugar substitutes and artificial sweeteners.

Artificial sweeteners and other sugar substitutes are found in a variety of foods and drinks sold as Diet or Sugar Free, including a lot of sodas sold on the market today. Just what are all these sweeteners? And what does it actually do to your body and overall health?



Diet sodas truly are the enemy of your body and is anything but "diet" so don't be fooled, it is secretly making me, you, and all of us unhealthy.

Did you know the artificial sweeteners in diet sodas have been known to trigger headaches? And if you are one of the millions of people that suffer from migraines, please look at what you are putting into your body, many people who suffer from migraines were able to pinpoint the triggers linked to their diet soda drinking.

Did you know that drinking a mixed drink of alcohol along with diet soda will get into your system faster making you more impaired quicker, because the artificial sweeter in diet sodas are known to absorb into our bloodstream faster than normal sugar?

The artificial sweetener in diet sodas trick your brain into thinking you are having something sweet; these artificial sweeteners have been shown to have the same effect on your body as sugar triggers insulin, which then puts your body into fat storage mode and of course leads to weight gain. Even though it has no calories, if you are trying to lose weight in the long run, it's just not going to happen. Most people gain weight from this and in the worst spot, your mid-section. It's also been said that people will tend to eat more calories justifying they can get away with it because their drink of choice is "diet" and has no calories, so it could be psychological as well.

Eating more food and drinking diet soda is a collision course for the makings of bad cholesterol, bigger waist and mid-section, high blood pressure, elevated glucose levels and there you have it: Type II Diabetes. Lately, there have been findings with connections to stroke and dementia, but more research is being done to find direct connections.

If you are trying to lose weight, get rid of the word "DIET" from your vocabulary, but also from the food and drinks you purchase. If the word diet is in there, then it's NOT good for you. It means they taken something out of the ingredients and replaced it with something else and that is usually chemicals. (As in the artificial sweeteners in diet soda but also in everyday foods. Especially the worst: prepackaged food products). These items will trick your body and brain into thinking you are eating something that you are not and disrupts the body's natural ability to regulate calorie intake based on the sweetness of the normal foods. It tricks you into thinking you can overeat, and you will crave more, it's a vicious cycle and you will not lose weight no matter how hard you try.

Healthier low-calorie choices are everywhere including water, skim milk, and unsweetened tea or coffee. My favorite drink of choice is sparkling water / plain soda water with fresh pieces of fruit cut up like strawberries, raspberries, blueberries, and oranges. Keeping your body healthy with water goes way back to my very first column, drink half your body weight in water daily. You'll thank me later.

Rick Bellanti is a health and wellness columnist and is on a journey himself to lose 240lbs and has lost 160 lbs. since the start of 2015. If you have any questions or comments, please post them to his Getting Healthy with Rick Bellanti Facebook page and once a month he will address a few of the topics here. ◊





TV TALK with BILL CUSHING



‘Dopesick’

Bill Cushing
VALLEY PATRIOT TV COLUMNIST

‘Dopesick,’ is Hulu’s ambitious and fascinating limited series about the root cause and widespread effects of the ongoing opioid crisis in the United States, caused when the unscrupulous drug company Purdue Pharma launched its painkilling drug OxyContin on an unsuspecting American public. From the mid-1990s into the 2000s this became one of the most devastating health scandals in medical history.

Based on the book Dopesick by Beth Macy, the series utilizes its terrific ensemble cast to tell different parts of one compelling story. In the late 1990s’, Michael Keaton is the fictional Dr. Finnix, an Appalachian family doctor who, charmed by Purdue Pharma sales rep Billy (Will Poulter), starts handing out a new painkiller called OxyContin to his patients. Young coal miner Betsy (Kaitlyn Dever) is the first to be given the new medication. With the message that his new creation is far from addictive, Purdue Pharma’s Dr. Richard Sackler (Michael Stuhlbarg) sees the money rolling in from this new “miracle drug.” Oxy soon begins flooding the marketplace as the small cities and towns reliant on physical labor become ground zero for this growing pharmaceutical catastrophe.

Soon the monster that the Sackler’s created destroys life everywhere it goes. In focusing on a single Appalachian community, ‘Dopesick’ finds its microcosm for addiction, sickness, and death everywhere. It shows that no one is safe, not even Doctor Samuel Finnix, whose long fall into the drug’s grasp is particularly insidious. Michael Keaton turns in some of the best work of his career.

Dever is also excellent, adding another remarkable performance to her growing résumé. Her character’s fall into desperate addiction is almost too painful to watch — for us, and for her confused and agonized parents (played so heartbreakingly by Ray McKinnon and Mare Winningham).

‘Dopesick’ connects the dots between the Sackler’s spacious boardroom and Dr. Finnix’s tiny exam room by following several plot threads, in particular a pair of assistant U.S. attorneys (Peter Sarsgaard and John Hoogenakker) who launch a four-year investigation into OxyContin, tracing how misinformation about the drug spread from the top. At one point, Purdue officials want to convince doctors to double their prescribed doses, so they invent a new condition called “breakthrough pain” to justify the increased doses (and increased profits). As viewers, we can’t help rooting for the attorneys or for Rosario Dawson as a DEA official who talks about the ‘80s crack epidemic that addicted Black people as one of the reasons she wants justice.

Adapted by Danny Strong and directed by Barry Levinson, ‘Dopesick,’ while very powerful, is certainly not easy to watch. The tension of seeing Dr. Finnix, a good man who deeply cares about his patients, be taken in by the lies about the drug’s safety is agonizing. Even so, it is riveting, and impossible to turn away.

Everyone in the world should know what Purdue Pharma knew about Oxycontin, when they knew it, and how much they profited from engineering this crisis. ‘Dopesick’ is not a television show people should watch to be entertained. It’s a show people should watch to get angry.

‘Dopesick’ is available to stream on Hulu.

If you have any questions about TV, you can email me at BillsTVTalk@gmail.com. I will answer all of your questions and will feature some of the questions I receive in a future Mailbag column.



Follow me on Twitter and Instagram @BillsTVTalk and on Facebook at BillsTVTalk for daily up-to-the-minute TV news and discussion. ◊



WEATHER 101 with AL KAPRIELIAN

Winter Driving/The Start of Winter



Welcome to December which will officially begin the winter season. The winter solstice will occur on December 21st. After this we will start to see an increase in daylight. December can be known for cold and even snowy weather. Snowstorms can occur during December.

We can also see mild days in December. Depending on the upper-level pattern (jet stream) LOW PRESHA! systems can track further north and to our west resulting in rain and not snow. Recapping November, it was the driest month since June for Boston.

Boston only got 1.34 inches of rain for December. This was 2.32 inches below normal. July, August, September, and October all had above normal rainfall. The first eleven days of November featured dry weather. On November 12th, the dry stretch broke and we had a day with flooding rains.

Normally in November we are not concerned about severe thunderstorms. This was not the case this past November. On Saturday November 13th later in the day we had a severe thunderstorm outbreak.

Severe thunderstorms caused 5 tornadoes between Connecticut and Rhode Island. Also 3 tornadoes occurred on Long Island, New York giving a total of 8. This is quite rare for the month of November. Some warm humid air was located in these areas ahead of a cold front. The cooler air behind the front clashed with this warm humid air causing severe thunderstorms which resulted in the tornadoes. This severe outbreak caused widespread power outages in these areas due to down trees and power lines. The extensive damage resulted in utility crews from areas outside of New England to arrive in these areas and help with the cleanup and restoration of power.

Looking at the temperatures in November they were not as warm as the temperatures we saw in October. Boston’s average temperature for November was 44.7 degrees which was about normal. The two warmest days in November for Boston were on November 9th and the 18th when the high temperature reached 70 degrees. There were some other mild days in November with high temperatures in the 60s. The later part of the month saw colder temperatures and many areas had their first frost and freeze which was much later than normal. Boston finally went below 32 degrees (freezing) for the low temperature.

Many areas saw their first snowflakes of the season on the night of November 26th into the 27th. For many areas, a coating of snow occurred on grassy surfaces. Higher snow amounts occurred in higher elevation areas. Lempster, NH got 9” of snow, Newport, NH got 6” of snow. Colder air occurred in the higher elevations and accounted for the higher snow totals. Now with winter almost here I will talk about winter weather.

To get a winter storm number 1, we need the northern and southern jet streams to phase in order for the low-pressure system to come far enough north to give us accumulating snow. If the northern and southern Jet streams do not phase, then the storm will track too far out to sea, and we would miss getting a snowstorm. In this case a snowstorm is more likely to occur over the mid-Atlantic states. Even when the jet streams phase we have to look at the storm track to see about the precipitation type. If the storm tracks west of us over eastern New York state, then we would get more rain versus snow because the wind direction would be more from the south bringing warm air north.

Remember, the air circulates counterclockwise around a low-pressure system. If the low-pressure system tracks south of Cape Cod & the Islands, we would have a better chance of getting all snow. Even with this track we look to see if there is a HIGH PRESHA! system to our north for example up in Montreal. If there is a high pressure in this area, then it tends to lock the cold air in at all levels of the atmosphere above the ground. The result in this case would be an all-snow event. If there is no high pressure to our north, then even with a low pressure track south of New England there could be a change to sleet (ice pellets) due to some warmer air moving in at upper levels of the atmosphere.

Also, we look at how intense the storm will be. If the jet stream has a lot of amplitude, then this can cause a more intense storm resulting in more precipitation (snow depending on the track of low pressure. Also, we look at how fast the storm will move. A faster storm will produce less snow and precipitation.

A slower storm will produce more snow and precipitation. Get ready for winter driving. If you have to travel in winter weather remember to allow extra time to get to your destination! Also, keep the speed down! By keeping the speed down, you are allowing a greater distance between your car and the car in front of you. When it snows and the roads are slippery it takes longer for your car to slow down (braking is slower)

Will we see a lot of cold and snowstorms in December??

Stay tuned to next month’s article for the answer. In the meantime, enjoy the holiday season and happy holidays! ◊

Good Things Happen When You Believe God Loves You!

Peter Larocque
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

As people around the world begin to prepare for Christmas, I am reminded of what the Angel of The Lord told Joseph, who was engaged to a very young virgin girl named Mary.

We read in Matthew 1:21, "And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins." NKJV. This Jesus will save His people from their sins! So right in this announcement to Joseph, we read the very reason and purpose of why we all need a savior, Our sins! Sin keeps us separated from God. Nothing outside of God's Salvation plan could reconcile us, sinners to a perfect God. Only Jesus could save us! Only Jesus can save today!

Only God could take man's worst act of crucifying His Son and make it His Greatest Act of Love! We read in John 3:16-17, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved." NKJV.

Why is it so difficult to believe that God could love you this much? Yes, none of us deserves this so stop feeling unworthy, get over yourself! Stop condemning yourself! The Bible says in Ephesians 2:8-9, "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast." NKJV. The only one with bragging rights is God Almighty and He chose to save us from our sins by His Grace!

All we have to do is Believe and Receive! It's a Gift from God! What are you going to do with all the gifts under the tree on Christmas morning? If you are smart you will open the ones with your name on them and receive them and believe that they are yours! This is how your Salvation is received. Your gift of Salvation from God has your name on it, open it!

You may be still thinking that your sin is just too big to be saved from? Your sin is too dark and must be kept secret in the dark places of your heart! Well, if this is you, may I boldly say to you, Jesus is bigger than your sin! He came to take away your sin no matter what it is. Stop disqualifying yourself from The Gift of all Gifts, your Salvation! God loves you that much! That while we were sinners, Christ died for us! God didn't wait until we were good enough to receive His Gift! Nope, while we were sinners, Christ died for us!

So, get with the program and simply receive your gift of Salvation by believing God loves you and God gave up His Son Jesus for you to save you from your sin and take it away from you! When Jesus died, your sin died with Him and when He rose from the dead, He rose without it! Your sin debt has been paid in full and your receipt is the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead! Who by the way is seated at God's Right-Hand triumphing over death, death is defeated!

So, let's come out of the dark and into the Light!

Psalms 119:105, "By your words I can see where I'm going;

they throw a beam of light on my dark path." [The Message Bible.]

Good things happen to those who Believe that God Loves them! What are you waiting for??? My prayer for you all is that you begin your relationship with Jesus NOW! I didn't say get religion, I said, begin your relationship with Jesus Now!

He wants a close, up, and personal relationship with You! Yes, You!

I thank God for you all, love to you and your family,

Merry Christmas and Have a Happy and Safe New Year in 2022!

Peter Larocque
peterlarocque@hotmail.com ◊

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EMERGENCY PARKING BAN: Alternate Parking on Certain Streets between 12:01 AM to 6:00 PM.

The winter alternate parking ordinance shall only take effect during the dates and times specified in a "SNOW AND ICE EMERGENCY" issued by the Mayor or his/her designee, The snow emergency shall remain in effect until the Mayor rescinds it. Notice of any such rescission shall be given in the same manner as the issuance of the declaration.

Winter Alternate Parking shall mean that on the following streets, between the hours of 12:01 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., daily, vehicles shall, unless otherwise prohibited by law, be parked on one side of the street only, so that on the even-numbered dates of the calendar, vehicles shall be parked on the even-numbered sides of the streets, and on the odd-numbered dates of the calendar, they shall be parked on the odd-numbered sides of the streets: ORD 10.36.031 (*IF YOUR STREET IS NOT LISTED BELOW, NO PARKING IS ALLOWED*)

Abbott St
Allen St (*General St To Angle)*
Allston St.
Ames St. *(Riverside Dr. to Haverhill St*
Amesbury St
Amherst St
Appleton St
Atkinson St
Auburn St
Bailey St
Ballard St
Barker St
Barnard St
Basswood St
Bay State Rd *(McFarlin St to Mater St)*
Beacon St
Beaconsfield St
Belknap St
Bellevue St
Bennett St
Bennington St (*Auburn St to Chestnut St)*
Beresford St
Berkeley St
Bigelow St
Blanchard St
Bodwell St
Bowdoin St
Boxford St
Bradford St
Brookfield St
Bruce St
Burke St
Burlington St
Butler St
Byron Ave
Cabot Rd
Cambridge St
Canal St
Canterbury St
Carleton St (Andover St to Everett St)
Carver St
Castle St
Cedar St
Chandler St
Chester St (So. Bway. To Dunstable St.)
Chestnut St
Chickering St *(Cutler St. to Pilgrim Rd.)*
Cleveland St
Clifton St
Clinton St
Colonial Dr
Colonial Rd
Colonial Terrace
Columbus Ave *(Haverhill St to Meadow St)*
Concord St
Congress St
Coolidge St
Copley St
County St
Crescent St
Crestwood Cir
Crosby St
Cross St
Cutler St (Chickering St to Marlboro St)
Cyr Drive
Dana St
Danforth St
Dartmouth St
Davis St.
Debbie Lane
Dorchester St
Dracut St (*So. Bway to Dunstable St)*
Dunstable St
Durham St
Durso Ave
East Boxford St
East Boxford Terrace
East Haverhill St
East Kingston St
East Pleasant St
East St
Easton St (*So. Bway to Jefferson St)*
Eastside St
Eaton St
Ellis St
Elm St
Emerald Ave.
Erving Ave
Eutaw St
Everett St
Exeter Pl
Exeter St
Exeter Terrace
Fairmont St
Fallon St
Falmouth St
Farley St
Farnham St
Ferry St
Ferguson St
Forest St
Foster St
Foxcroft St
Franklin St
Frost Dr
Furber St
Garden St
Garfield St (*Cambridge St to Falmouth St)*
Gilbert St
Glenn St
Glenwood Drive
Gorham St
Grafton St
Grainger St
Grant Rd
Green St
Greenfield St
Greenwood St
Groton St
Grove St
Hamlet St
Hancock St
Hawley St
High St (*Except E. Haverhill St to Ferry St)*
Highgate St
Hillside Ave
Howard St
Hudson Ave
Hurst St
Inman St
Jamaica St
Jefferson St
Juniper St. (*For its entire length on Odd Side of street (East Side only during effective period.)*
Kenneth St
Kent St
Kingston St
Laurel St
Lea St
Lebanon St *(Hampshire St to Amesbury St)*
Leeds Ter.
Lenox Circle
Lenox St
Lincoln Ct
Lisa Lane
Lorenzo Rd
Loring Street
Louisburgh St
Lowell St (Lawrence St to W. Lowell St)
Lynn St
Manchester St
Maple St
Margin St
Marie Lane
Marion Ave (except Holly St to Spicket River)
Marique Dr
Mark Lane
Market St
Marlboro St
Marston St
Martha Lane
Mason St
May St
Medford St
Melrose St
Melvin St
Middlebury St *(Olive Ave to Endicott St)*
Mill St
Milton St (*Haverhill St to Bodwell St)*
Monroe St
Morton St
Mt. Auburn St
Mt. Vernon Cir
Mt. Vernon St
Mt. Vernon Terrace
Newbury St
Newton St
No. Parish Rd
Oak St (*East Haverhill to Short St)*
Oakland Rd
Olive Ave (*W. Lowell St to Ames St)*
Orchard St
Osgood St
Oxford St
Packard St
Patton St
Pembroke Dr
Perry Ave
Philips St
Pilgrim Rd
Pleasant St (*Ferry St to High St)*
Portland St
Powers St
Proctor Rd
Prospect St
Providence St
Railroad St
Richmond St
Rita Lane
Roberta Lane
Rockwood Lane
Rowe St
Russell St
Salem St
Sanborn St
Sargent St
School St
Shattuck St
Shawsheen Rd
Sheridan St
Shepard St
Short St (Chestnut to Maple St)
So. Bowdoin St
Sparkle Drive
Springfield St
Standish Rd
Stevens St (*Mt.Vernon St to Stevens Ave)*
Storrow St
Summer St
Summit Ave
Swan St
Sylvester St
Taft St
Temple St
Tewksbury St
Thomas Rd
Tremont St
Tyler St
Valley St
Vandergrift St
Walnut St
Warren St
Water St
Weare St
West Hawley St
West Kenneth St
Westchester Drive
Westwood Terrace
White St
Whitman St
Wilmot St
Winston Dr
Winter St
Woodland St
Wyman St

ON THE FOLLOWING STREETS BETWEEN 12:01 AM AND 6:00 AM, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, ALTERNATE PARKING WILL BE ENFORCED YEAR-ROUND: ORD 10.36.190

Ames St, from Haverhill St. to Water St.
Andover St
Arlington St, from Broadway to the Methuen Line.
Broadway, from the Methuen Line to Canal St.
Canal St, from Prospect Street to Union St.
Common St.
East Haverhill St, from Steiner St. to Avon St.
Eastside St, entire length.
Essex St.
Ferry St, from Marston St to East Haverhill St.
General Street, from Prospect Street to Union Street.
Hampshire St, from Lawrence St to Arlington St
Hampshire St, from Myrtle St to Canal St.
Hampshire St, from Canal St to Arlington St.
Haverhill St, except from Jackson St to Amesbury St and Broadway.
Jackson St, from Canal St to Kendrick St and from Berkeley Street to Methuen Line.
Lawrence St.
Lowell St, from Ames St to Lawrence St.
Market St, from Loring Street to Parker St.
Merrimack St.
Methuen St, from Broadway to Amesbury St.
Methuen St, from Lawrence St to Union St.
Parker St, from Andover St to Merrimack St
Prospect St, from the Methuen Line to Canal St.
Salem St, from Emmett St to Shawsheen Road, with the exception of that portion of Salem St., between Newton St and Everett St.)
Salem St, from Emmett St to South Union St.
South Broadway
South Union St.
Tremont St, from Hampshire St to West St.
Union St.
Water St, from Ames St to Broadway.
West St.
Winthrop Avenue, from Chickering St to Parker St.

The provisions of this section shall not apply to the portions of the following streets which are designated as State highways:

Jackson Street, north of Berkley Street to Methuen Line-Route 110.
Riverside Drive, west of Ames Street to the Methuen Line.
Winthrop Avenue, from the junction of Osgood Street south to Interstate 495.

ALL NIGHT PARKING PERMITTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

Exterior of **BREEN SCHOOL** – Yard only
CARL LINDQUIST PLAYGROUND –Emmett Street side only
CHARLES STORROW PARK –High Street side only from Pleasant Street southerly to Storrow Terrace
JAMES F. LEONARD SCHOOL PLAYGROUND –South side
ARLINGTON SCHOOL –Arlington Street
Exterior of LAHEY SCHOOL – Yard only
Exterior of ROLLINS SCHOOL – Platt Street only
PARTHUM SCHOOL – Playground area to E. Haverhill Street

It is very important that motorist cooperate and remove their vehicles out of all public areas no later than 7:00 A.M... All vehicles will be towed away at the OWNER'S EXPENSE who fails to comply with the above time schedule. Also, all vehicles immobilized by accident, mechanical, uninsured or uninspected left on all city owned land will be towed at OWNER'S EXPENSE. Any questions, call 978-620-3090 or 978-620-3350.

–Jorge Jaime, Director of DPW

(REVISED DATE 11.16.21)

REAL ESTATE: FROM 16

Raymond Phan, $580,000, 223 Hampshire St

Roy and Jane Cole, Carol Holbrook Tr & Brian Holbrook Tr & Holbrook Family Revocable Tr, $575,000, 4 Mcallister Way

Mary Swan, Nick Castillo, $570,000, 159-161 Howe St

Modesto Martinez & Cristina Hernandez-Peraza, Wislaine Laurent & Emmanuel Fedna, $565,000, 14 Palmer St

Marie Previlus, Jeremy Mora, $555,000, 5 Westwind Dr

Elizabeth A Godek Revocable Living Tr & Elisabeth Godek Tr, Kristin Diburro & Ryan Johnson, $520,000, 106 Butternut Ln

Donna & Paul Wilchinski, Apolinar Garcia & Marcelina De Garcia, $515,000, 76 Maple St

Main Thige & Charity Maina, Alas & Oumou Barry, $500,000, 120 Bay State Rd

Paul & Deborah Parent, Janice Morrissey Tr, $499,000, 52 Jane Rd

Lucas & Nicholas Russell, Altamiro Filho & Viviane Assis, $490,000, 45 Ayers Village Rd

Megan Donahue & Megan Medina, Vanessa Salcedo, $477,000, 319 Lowell St

Deborah Pitocchelli Tr & Pitochelli Family Realty Tr, Gustavo Salas & Caroline Camacho, $470,000, 105 Bradley Ave Ext

James E Carney Sr Revocable Tr of 1997 & James Carney Tr, Katherin Mejia, $465,000, 202 Pleasant St

William & Barbara Jensen, David Emerick & Deniene Savard, $450,000, 62 Landing Dr Unit 62

Florenda & Mark Kislowski, Anabel Polanco, $450,000, 3 Francella Rd

Michael Foley & Tanya Waithe , Arianna & Joshua Andujar, $440,000, 130 Forest St

Christopher & Lori Amico, Victor Hernandez & Leidy Baez, $430,000, 10 Reservoir St

Christopher & Andrew Zielinski, Melissa Chalas & Pedro Hernandez, $425,000, 65 Weybossett St

Linda Bishop, Grace Ahn, $420,000, 61 Landing Dr Unit 61

Stephanie Martin & Suzanne Lahey, Nathalia Arboleda & Maria Sepulveda, $415,000, 11 Hill St

Steven Caristinos, John & Cathy Smithendorf, $410,000, 905 Riverside Dr

Fadi Bouchrouche, Eddy Rahi, $400,000, 1 Glenway Ave

Clautide Blanc, Angel Marmol, $400,000, 53 Arnold St

Michael Denuzzio & Patricia Preston, Bernardo Balbi & Ayanes Frias, $400,000, 252 Oakland Ave

Melissa Branco, Aristides Eusebio, $400,000, 13 Deering Ave

Michael & William & Virginia Barry & Mary & Kathy Stranger & Susan Lambert, Amimc LLC, $362,500, 150 Pleasant St

Elizabeth Roberts, Neil Terrero, $317,000, 1 Riverview Blv Unit 7-205

VMTR LLC, Elusai Lemus, $300,000, 1 Short St

Margaret Joyce, Nousheen Hakin, $270,000, 97 Pelham St Unit 1

Patricia A Maglia Revocable Tr & Doreen Martin-Gillian & Frank Curcio, Emma Thompson, $265,000, 27 Constitution Way Unit 27

Kevin & Cathleen Johnson & Cathleen Haas, Property Possible Inc, $255,000, 10 Caswell Ave

Jovanny Guaba, Denise Concheri, $251,000, 21 Hampshire Rd Unit 21-410

Marie Hinchcliffe & Michael Gagne, Mohammad Armar & Aalisha Wahab, $225,000, 395 Merrimack St Unit 26

Thomas & David Hajj & Judith Romano, Kim Cao, $205,000, 46 Ashford St Unit 15

Elba Morency, Francisco Polanco, $193,000 , 52 High St Unit 4

Paul Hudson, Kenneth Hudson, $185,000, 104 Ford St Unit E

Lisa Derusha Tr & Lisa Derusha Living Tr, Yordano Murray, $180,000, 20 Danbury Dr Unit 20-14

CRH Realty LLC, David Deas, $170,000, 20 Danbury St Unit 2

CRH Realty LLC, Thomas & Jade Kucharski & Nicole Summa, $155,000, 40 Danbury Dr Unit 4

Gerardo Giugliano, New England Home Buyers LLC, $141,000, 945 Riverside Dr Unit A

Nathan Swartz & Pierre Unitt & Nathan Swartz, Nathan Swartz, $85,000, 69 Golf Ave

Sherry Calabrese & George Mingins & Susan & Brian Skaff, 45-49 Jackson St LLC, $35,000, Lowell St

Eugene & Elizabeth Declercq, Utica Capital LLC, $30,000, 28 Adelaide Ave

Toll Ma Land III LP, Robert & Linda McCabe, $780,000, 2 Phoebe St Unit 144

McCraw Second Family Trust & Michelle McCraw Tr, Christopher & Laura Kendig, $767,500, 5 Bramble Hill Rd

Richard Coco, Franklin Serrano & Adelyn Acevedo, $620,000, 69 Tower St

Joseph Grande, Ana Diaz, $550,000, 52 Linwood Ave

Charbel Bourouphael, Sucre Dominguez & Adaris Cabrera, $460,000 , 53 Merrimack St

Azores Wholesale Limited LLC, Kaisy Espinoza & Guadalupe Rivas, $420,000, 8 Horne St

Preston & Valerie Carmichael, Flor Ortega & Oscar Depaz, $350,000, 21 Marie St

NORTH ANDOVER

Jeremy Finkle Tr & Jeremy Finkle Revocable Tr & Tanya Gould Tr & Tanya Gould Revocable Tr, Sandra Wroble & Robbie Robinson, $1,200,000, 29 Blue Ridge Rd

James & Dianne Stevens, Domenic Botticelli , $1,111,000, 31 Skyview Ter

David & Laura Feng & Laura Antonucci, Matthew & Michelina Kinell, $1,104,000, 45 Gray St

Paul & Carol Powers, Christopher & Megan Royal, $1,055,000, 53 Monteiro Way

Meghan Grungale, Mark & Kimberly Bethel, $979,000, 87 Coachmans Ln

Rimpyo Hong & Sunhwa Jung, Sylvia & Jonathan Vega, $965,000, 154 Amberville Rd

Joseph & Kandace Kukas, Heather & Stephen McGrath, $939,000, 110 Laconia Cir

Kuljit & Tarlochan Kalkat , Kevin & Kendra Carr, $925,000, 90 Lost Pond Ln

Fuller Road Realty Tr & Maureen Norman Tr, Richard Fantasia & Pia Amicone, $892,000, 79 Fuller Rd

Susan Moreschi, Brian & Stacey Thomson, $860,000, 95 Greene St

David & Brenda Sikora, Anthony & Lindsey Sallese, $858,000, 521 Dale St

Ronald Cuscia, Salmon Run LLC, $845,000, 16-22 May St

Ronald & Joanne Cuscia, Clifford & Theresa Smith, $840,000, 69 South Bradford St

John & Amanda DeCoste, Pedro Lino, $750,000 , 537 Boxford St

Five C Construction LLC, Michael Pignatato & Allison Umlah, $746,000, 166 Cotuit St

Anthony & Jennifer Valencia, Gregory & Lauren Ormiston, $713,000, 11 Tolland Rd

James & Marie & Patrick & Margaret Daw & Margaret Waldron , Franklin Diaz, $665,000, 27-29 Maple Ave

David Lind Tr & Donna Lind Tr & Lind Famly Revocable Tr, Signe Spencer, $664,000, 575 Winter St

Harmonics Realty Tr & Janice Mottolo Tr, Santosh Shrestha, $635,000, 2-4 Turnpike St

Mary Crete, Rose Marenghi, $635,000, 100 Adams Ave

Timothy Loughran, Chrisotpher Paolini & Sarah McAllister, $630,000 , 410 Summer St

Maureen McCarthy, Shanna & Ryan Hinchliffe, $630,000, 393 Sutton St Unit A

Mark & Kimberly Bethel, Amnon & Shani Amit, $610,000, 129 Moody St

David & Maryellen Johns, Hector Ortega & Martha Cebeno, $610,000, 209 Chickering Rd

Mamta Lohia Living Tr & Mamta Lohia Tr, Krishna Revi & Vinod Mohanan, $585,001, 284 Hillside Rd

Elizabeth W Deyo 1999 Tr & Catherine Deyo Tr & Brendan Deyo Tr, Oliver McConnell & Betty Lam, $576,000, 64 Woodstock St

Sunil & Sunita Samtani, Hesham Raghib & Maha Elgendy , $575,000, 62 Compass Point Rd Unit 62

Michael Robbins, Wendy Smith, $525,000, 300 Dale St

Patrice Pappalardo, Gillian Weeks, $520,000, 21 Davis St

Hartnett Family Tr & Linda Hartnett Tr, Pedro Reyes, $515,000, 65 Cotuit St Unit 2

R & M Trust & Gary Lincoln & Gary Cyr Tr, Colin Callahan, $509,850, 105 Moody St

North Shore Real Estate Solutions LLC, Rachel & Keith Canning, $495,000, 10 Robinson Ct

Sheila Serrao, Maria Caracuel, $480,000, 36 Alcott Way Unit 36

Jordan Burgess Tr & Suzy B Realty Tr, David Rutter & Nanett Phaneuf Rutter, $480,000, 47 Millpond

Mariska Pierce, Jelyssa Weeks, $470,000, 466 Massachusetts Ave

Seaport Homes LLC, Rachel Christensen, $429,000, 127 Marblehead St Unit C

Meridith Realty LLC, Star Ridge Properties LLC, $410,000, 60 Ashland St

Henry Abraham & Carold Belding, Hyesoon Kim, $400,000, 22 Stacey Dr

Linda Kendrick, Kristen Nassif, $375,000, 33 Riverview St

Thao Tran, Kelvin & Jimmy Le, $360,000, 19 Meadowood Rd

Eric Dawson Ind Tr & Jamie Dawson Ind Tr & Dawson Family Tr, Neil Hack, $319,900, 8A Union St

Andriy & Inna Kochura, Alyssa Yearwood, $290,000, 39 Village Green Dr Unit 34

Helene Ryan & John Ryan Est & John Ryan Jr Est, Marie & Patrick Daw & Margaret Waldron, $254,900, 148 Main St Unit 0-402

Paul and Carrie Woodbury, Ann & Jeffrey Liotta, $249,900 , 25 Frenview Ave Unit 10

Daniel Napoli, Aaron Griswold, $246,265, 44 Empire Dr

Carolyn Rockwell Tr & Eleanor Rockwell Family Trust, Francisco Bonilla Tr & Carmen Henriques- Lopez Tr & Bonilla-Henriquez Revocable Tr, $120,000, 968 Salem St

Darrin & Elaine Manke, Lisa Murray, $997,000, 75 Granville Ln





SUE PIAZZA'S BOOK REVIEW

A Question of Class
(Captain Fusco Mystery Cases Series)

© by Maria Marotti 2021
Genre: Fiction, Mystery
Bookmarkers: 2.5 of 5

This is the second edition of this, the first book in Maria Marotti's Captain Fusco series.

Between Captain Fusco's wife recently dying and his being kept busy with his police work he hasn't had time for a new female relationship. Valentina, recently divorced, works in academia. Film noir. A murder takes place at the University and someone there is being framed for the act.

Tasked with investigating and solving the crime, Captain Fusco interviews Valentina. The connection between the two is immediate. She is as interested in solving the crime as he is, and she helps him. Her appearance also adds a romantic element to the storyline.

So many characters are introduced in the first couple of chapters that I had to write down their names and connection to one another. I constantly had to look back to see why so-and-so disliked their colleague or what they had in common with another character. I know that murder mysteries tend to have a lot of people for the reader to choose the culprit from but at one point I stopped jotting down names because I no longer cared. It became just too darn confusing.

Some major characters do not have alibis and that fits perfectly with their role and personality in the novel. Sometimes alibis can sound contrived like the author just threw them in to give the book some alternatives. Ms. Marotti does not do this. Her plot sequence and flow are quite good.

This author is likewise a master of description.

"… looks like a former model¬¬— somewhere in her forties, rather tall, high stiletto heels, mini-skirt that exposes her long slender legs, low cut lacy blouse, round firm boobs, luxuriant auburn hair let loose on her shoulders, and an artfully made-up pretty face."

Her in-depth details of the casts' physical appearance are balanced by her descriptions of settings.

"The room looks like a boudoir—flowery patterns on the upholstery of the couch and chairs, an imitation Chinese rug with pink borders and rose patterns, vases of red roses on the desk and on the shelves, and paintings of flowers and angels on the walls."

She includes recipes as well. However, the sexual use of "Italian cold cut artistically spread over Abigail's body and, in particular, over her well-rounded butt" left me never wanting to eat prosciutto again. Yech! Or the fact that "she nibbles on the prosciutto slices wrapped around his …" (male member) Sorry, but again, yech!

What I did not like was the author's tendency to flip from past to present tense. I'm not sure if this is an error or something else but I found the abrupt change distracting.

One element that was particularly annoying was the number of exclamation points! They were stuck everywhere! "Good morning, Ms. Twitman!" "Good morning. Professor Dukakis!" "Ah … my ass! Slaves do research at their own risk!" By the time I got to page 21 I'd already counted seventeen! On page 22 there were six additional ones! (See how irritating these quickly become.)

According to one of Grammarly.com's blog posts, "An exclamatory sentence is one that expresses strong or forceful emotion, such as anger, surprise, or joy. Exclamation points are also commonly found with sentence fragments or sudden interjections."

By the time I get to page 34 I'm not concentrating on either the plot or the cast but on how many emotional utterances I'm going to find on that one page. By the time I got to Chapter Two, I was exhausted from not only reading the book but also trying to figure out how anyone could publish a book with this many grammatical marks. It's not until about page 50 that these symbols become significantly reduced resulting in a "normal" amount.

So, if you can get to page 50 without tossing the book against a wall, or pulling your hair out, you're pretty much golden.

It was difficult for me to focus on dialogue when so much of what was expressed was done with either surprise, anger, or some other emotion. The author, of Italian descent, may be used to speaking with others who express themselves with high energy but not all of us Italians/Sicilians emote with high intensity when we say things like "hello."

I would not recommend this murder mystery. Her second book in this series, The Etruscan Princess is a much better work. You do not miss any important information by reading the second book first either. This novel is a much better use of one's time and a more enjoyable read.

Susan Piazza, a Navy veteran, is an author, columnist, and blogger. Book One in her historical American Indian series is the romance, "A Bird Call That Isn't." It can be found on Amazon at:

A Bird Call That Isn't : A Bird Call That Isn't ◊

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